

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/627,139

Examiner

Amy R. Cohen

Applicant(s)

ERNST ET AL.

Art Unit

2859

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief and Amendment 8/16/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-50.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                                    | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|                                                                                                                     | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                               |

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Marcus Dolce on October 26, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1: --movable-- has been added to line 5 after "at least one".

Claim 13: --movable-- has been added to line 4 after "at least one".

Claim 24: --movable-- has been added to line 5 after "at least one".

Claim 34: --movable-- has been added to line 6 after "at least one".

Claim 36: --movable-- has been added to line 6 after "at least one".

Claim 38: --movable-- has been added to line 6 after "at least one".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-9, 12, 39, 40: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign system assembly comprising at least one movable alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

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Claims 10, 11: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign assembly including a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 13-20, 23, 41, 42: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign making system assembly for a frame having a face comprising at least one movable alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 21, 22: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign making system assembly including a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 24-31, 43, 44: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign making system assembly for placing alphanumeric symbols on a frame having a face comprising at least one movable alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims

Claims 32, 33: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a sign making system assembly including a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 34, 35, 45, 46: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a method of accurately making a sign comprising providing at least one movable alphanumeric locator, locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a

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portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 36, 37, 47, 48: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a method of accurately making a sign with a frame having a face, the method comprising providing at least one movable alphanumeric locator, locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 38, 49, 50: The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a method of accurately aligning at least one alphanumeric symbol on a face of a frame to make a sign, the method comprising providing at least one movable alphanumeric locator, locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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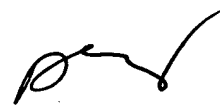
*Conclusion*

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amy R. Cohen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2238. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F. Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ARC  
October 26, 2005



Diego Gutierrez  
Supervisory Examiner  
Tech Center 2800